

## BEET SUGAR IN ENGLAND.

Experiments in Essex Last Year Showed That Beets of Best Quality Could Be Grown.

In nearly every county in England, Wales and southern Ireland it has been demonstrated that beets of high sugar content can be grown. It has, however, yet to be satisfactorily shown that sugar can be commercially and profitably manufactured from these beets. The failure of an attempt at sugar production in England some 30 years ago would seem to answer this in the negative. But it appears that beets used at that failure contained only ten per cent. of sugar, and that farmers found it more profitable to feed them to their stock than to sell at the price the factory could afford to pay. In the present Essex experiments, however, the average percentage of sugar in the beets is placed at 16 1/2, and even this has been exceeded in several recorded cases in other counties. This striking improvement in quality has been produced by careful selection and by close attention to other details of culture.

The experiments in Essex last year showed that beets could be grown equal to and in some cases better in quality than those raised in sugar producing countries. While this is the first thing to be investigated, the committee says "it does not follow that even when this is established beyond any possibility of doubt the undertaking is one that would necessarily be a commercial success. The business side of the question—the cost of production, the cost of working a factory and a host of similar points—needs careful and experienced consideration."

Figures are given showing that the cost per acre in these experiments was about 16 per cent. more than in similar experiments in the United States.

## ODD CHURCH MEMORIALS.

Garlands Hung Up in English Sanctuaries to Girls True to Their First Love.

There are seven "virgins' garlands" still in existence in Minsterley church, Salop, the first of them bearing the date 1554 and the last 1751, says the London Daily Graphic.

They consist of silk ribbon and paper, ball-shaped, and are covered with rosettes, the inside center of the cane or wire frame supporting a pair of paper gloves. They represent a romantic custom of very ancient origin, and are sacred to the memory of girls who, while betrothed in their youth, lost their intended husbands by death, yet remained true to their first loves. Each maiden designed her own garland, and at her death this simple emblem was borne before her by the village lassies, the white gloves being afterward added. After the obsequies these garlands were suspended in the village church on a rod bearing at its extremity a heart in the shape of an escutcheon, upon which the initials and date were inscribed. These were originally fixed above the maiden's pew.

Some of the earliest and forgotten garlands were composed of real flowers, but later the covered noops described were substituted.

There is a passing allusion to this "simple memorial of the early dead" in "Hamlet." "Yet here she is allowed her virgin crants," "crants," signifying garlands."

## Harvard Student's Honor.

Vilhjalmur Stefansson, now a student at Harvard, has been appointed a member of the newest expedition in search of the north pole, which will leave Vancouver early in May under command of Capt. Ejner Mikkelsen. The Harvard student will be the youngest member of the expedition.

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## THE AMERICAN HOME

WM. A. RADFORD EDITOR

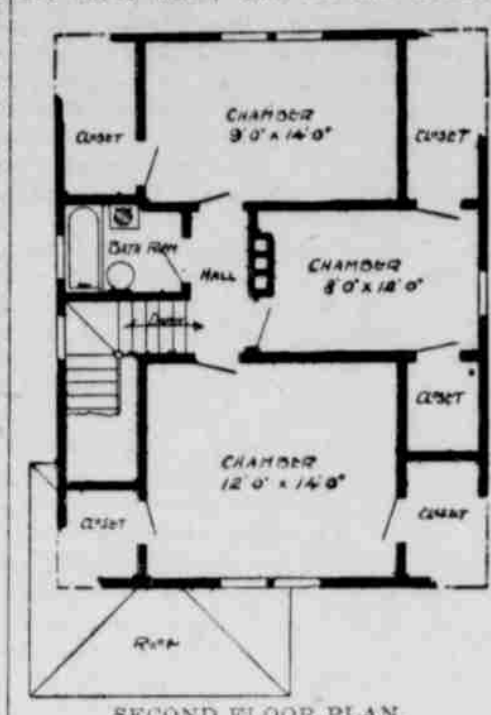
Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 194 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

Three rooms and a hall downstairs, three rooms and a bathroom upstairs, quickly describes this house plan. But every house has a distinguishing feature. There is an endless variety of features in house building. There are more combinations of rooms, passage ways, windows, positions of doors and other necessities than most people realize. The distinguishing feature of this house upstairs is the number of closets. In all my experience I never knew a woman to have closet room enough. Of course a builder cannot bring himself to turn the whole upstairs into closets, and it would not satisfy anyone if he did. But the architect has taken advantage in this plan of the peculiar shape of the roof to work in two closets for each of the front bedrooms and one for the other bedroom.

Another good scheme in this plan is doing away with the upper hall. You land in the middle of the house within arm's length of any one of the four doors that open into the different rooms. There is no floor space wasted here.

The study of architects for a hundred years has been to save room. It costs money to inclose a lot of unnecessary atmosphere, and it costs a whole lot more to heat it every winter for a lifetime afterwards. Thirty years ago high ceilings were fashionable. A lot of fellows who had more money than they knew what to

do with built great big expensive barns with 12 or 15-foot ceilings and called them houses. They had not money enough afterwards to heat them properly because in building they neglected the proper proportions, and neither they nor their architects understood the principle of the circulation of warm air. These fellows and their families burned thousands of tons of good anthracite coal in their efforts to keep themselves comfortable in the winter time. But they always kept mum about their actual feelings. After freezing for several



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.

range, one for the furnace, and one is provided for a grate in the parlor if the parties building the house so desire. Personally, I am very fond of a grate. A good grate with a handsome mantel helps very materially to furnish a room, and there are thousands of mantel designs to choose



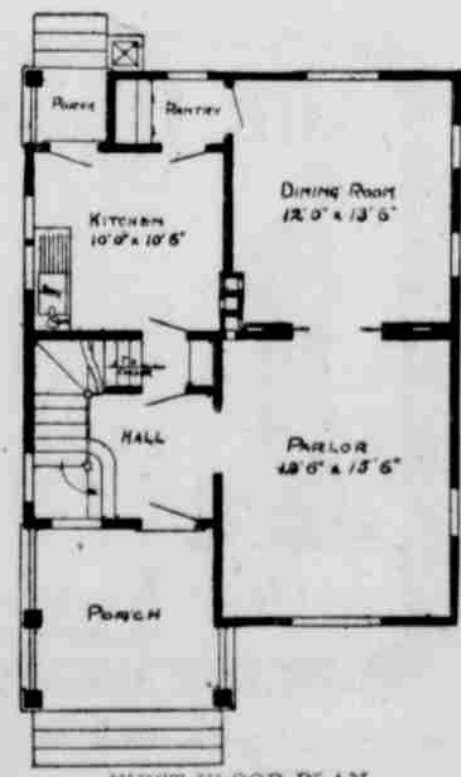
from. They are made in all prices from ten dollars to any amount of money a person wishes to spend. Modern tiling goes a long way toward making a grate attractive, and tiling for this purpose gets better and cheaper every year. When pretty tiles are set with a fitting mantel the design is extremely pleasing.

But it is the utility part of the grate that offers the strongest inducement to put one in. Our grandfathers did not appreciate an open fire because they had no other means of heating a house. Houses were not constructed as well then as they are now, and grandfather was obliged to warm one side of himself at a time. The process of turning around, alternately freezing and thawing his different sides, tired the old man, and his remarks on the subject were well calculated to discourage open fires in the houses of the coming generation, because what grandfather said was true whether he understood the subject or not. Since that time we have learned how to make a house air-tight by means of building and better workmanship, and we have other heating devices.

A fire in the kitchen will take the chill off the whole house in mild weather and a small fire in the parlor grate in the afternoon and evening will attract not only every member of the family, but several of the neighbors who are not fortunate enough to own a grate. The greatest bid for popularity when the chilly evenings of fall and spring come around is an open fire. Any woman may be a social leader in her community if she understands how to manipulate an open fire, and is willing to throw in a smile or two as occasion offers.

## The Disappearing Eagle.

The genuine bird lover will note with some dismay the increasing value of the eggs of eagles, as evidenced by the higher prices obtained each year for these now somewhat rare trophies of the collector. A couple of eagles' eggs brought as much as £2 (\$10) apiece in the auction room, while a short time before two Reay specimens realized 30 shillings each.—Pall Mall Gazette.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

mornings at breakfast the men habitually swore in private. Their convictions were never given out for publication, and they would not have been published if they were. Unfortunately when a man with considerable money starts a fad others follow as nearly as possible and it becomes a fashion. But the high ceiling house fashion has completely run itself out. Honest, conscientious architects have done their share towards killing it, for which we should be duly thankful. The size of this house is 24 by 31 feet, exclusive of porch; a small house when the size and number of the rooms are taken into consideration.

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The display of Oriental Rugs in our Carpet department will continue until Saturday night, May 26. You are invited to call and see them.

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## Wonderful Device.

Prof. P. E. Shaw, of University college, Nottingham, England, is credited with inventing an instrument of such wonderful delicacy that one seventy-millionth part of an inch can be measured. The apparatus is suspended by rubber bands from a frame in a felt-covered box, and it can be used only at night, when all the factory machinery of the city is still.

## Babies Wear Charms.

All Neapolitan babies wear tied round their necks a charm against the evil eye called "Cimaruta," which means "a sprig of rice." When complete it consists of nine emblems, all of which have magical power. These emblems are the sprig of rice, serpent, half moon, key, heart, hand and horn, bird, shamrock and silver.

Cleanse your system of all impurities this month. Now is the time to take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. It will keep you well all summer. 35c tea or tablets. Martin & Showerman.

## Remarkable Record.

For 20 years the man at the door of the Empire theater has been taking tickets along Broadway, and in all that time he has never seen a show. He's been at the Empire for about ten years. He hasn't even seen "Peter Pan." Seldom, if ever, he gives out a door check between acts. He just remembers the faces. He never gives a door check to a woman. And he's never been fooled.—N. Y. Sun.

## The Grand Manner.

No one will be a martyr and reintroduce the grand manner into a scoffing world. Yet one occasionally escapes in fancy into the older world dead a century or more, wherein human beings had time and inclination for something more than the scrappy politeness which is all we deal out to-day.—Week's Survey.

## Baby Clowns.

In the traveling circuses of France the babies of the company are put to work as clowns.

## In Buying Monuments

Remember there is as great a difference in quality as there is in woods, for durability.

I handle none but the highest grade money will buy. I employ no agents, and can save you one-fourth in price below agent's prices. I keep Monuments on hand for your inspection; then there can be no deception; you know then whether you like it or not.

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